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Z.18015/8/2011-NRHM-II
Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
National Rural Health Mission

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 25/07/2011

ORDER

It has been decided to expand the role of Village Health & Sanitation Committee (VHSC) so as to include 'Nutrition' within its ambit with the active participation of Anganwadi Workers, ANMs and ASHAs. The Committee henceforth will be named as Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC). In addition to the defined activities of VHSC as per NRHM framework of implementation, VHSNC will also engage with and monitor status, issues and action pertaining to nutrition. **The broadened mandate of VHSNC will include the following activities in addition to the existing mandate of VHSC.**

- Create awareness about nutritional issues and significance of nutrition as an important determinant of health.
- Carry out survey on nutritional status and nutritional deficiencies in the village especially among women and children.
- Identify locally available food stuffs of high nutrient value as well as disseminate and promote best practices (traditional wisdom) congruent with local culture, capabilities and physical environment through a process of community consultation.
- Inclusion of Nutritional needs in the Village Health Plan- The committee will do an in-depth analysis of causes of malnutrition at the community and household levels, by involving the ANM, AWW, ASHA and ICDS Supervisors.

SPM
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to all committees

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- Monitoring and Supervision of Village Health and Nutrition Day to ensure that it is organised every month in the village with the active participation of the whole village.
- Facilitate early detection of malnourished children in the community, tie up referral to the nearest Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) as well as follow up for sustained outcome.
- Supervise the functioning of Anganwadi Centre (AWC) in the village and facilitate its working in improving nutritional status of women and children.
- Act as a grievances redressal forum on health and nutrition issues.

The committee may, preferably, act as a sub-committee of Gram Panchayat and function under the overall supervision of Gram Panchayat. States are accordingly advised to issue the necessary notifications and guidelines on constitution of VHSNC to all concerned. States are also requested to consider notifying VHSNC as a subcommittee of Gram Panchayat.


(P.K. Pradhan)

**Special Secretary & Mission Director (NRHM)
Government of India**

To,

Pr. Secretaries (H&FW) / Secretaries (H&FW) / Mission Directors (NRHM)
of all States/ UTs.

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1. Secretary (WCD)
2. Sr. Advisor, Planning Commission
3. All programme officers in the Ministry of Health & FW
4. NRHM Facility Centre -for uploading in website.